

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 651

By Watson

A RESOLUTION designating September 25-October 2, 2005, as  
Bryan College Week.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are proud to recognize those institutions of higher learning that are dedicated to the education of young men and women under the auspices of Christian and spiritual guidance; and

WHEREAS, Bryan College in Dayton is one such institution of higher learning, which has, since its founding in 1930, offered the highest quality liberal arts education to its students; and

WHEREAS, William Jennings Bryan, U.S. Congressman, Presidential nominee, editor of the *Omaha World Herald*, famed orator, champion for the common man, and Christian leader, relayed during his stay in Dayton while participating in the Scopes Evolution Trial in 1925 his wish that a school one day be established in the scenic hillsides around the city; and

WHEREAS, Bryan College received its charter from the State of Tennessee on July 23, 1925, three days prior to the death of its namesake; and

WHEREAS, following Bryan's death in 1925, the Bryan Memorial University Association launched a national campaign to raise funds for the endowment of a college. Suffering the ravages of the Great Depression, the college was unable to offer classes until 1930; and

WHEREAS, after opening on September 18, 1930, in the Rhea County High School building, Bryan College has continued throughout the years to grow. It currently encompasses more than ten buildings on a 110-acre campus; and

WHEREAS, accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Bryan College has also gained the approval of the Tennessee State Board of Education, the Association of Christian Schools International, the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health

Education Programs, and the Immigration and Naturalization Service in recognition of its dedication to an education firmly rooted in Christianity; and

WHEREAS, Bryan College has been named as a top-tier liberal arts college by the *US News & World Report* for the past ten years; and

WHEREAS, this year marks the celebration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of its founding, and Bryan College, having remained true to the visions of its founding fathers, is sure to carry those visions into the future, continuing to offer the finest Christian education to its students; and

WHEREAS, the community of Dayton has requested that this Body designate September 25-October 2, 2005, as "Bryan College Week" in celebration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of its founding, and the members of this General Assembly wholeheartedly concur with this request; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that the week of September 25-October 2, 2005, is hereby designated as "Bryan College Week." We urge the residents of Dayton and the citizens of Tennessee to recognize this week with appropriate celebrations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.